BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2007-14-C - ORDER NO. 2007-316

MAY 11, 2007

IN RE: Petition of US LEC of South Carolina, Inc.
for Expedited Review of Central Code
Denial by the Number Pooling Administrator
in the Summerville Rate Center

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Denial

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") by way of a petition from US LEC of South Carolina, Inc. ("US LEC") requesting expedited NPA-NXX relief for the Spartanburg rate center with confidential treatment of customer identity. According to US LEC, it recently requested one 1000 block of numbers (1,000 numbers) for the rate center from NeuStar, but Neustar refused to provide these numbering resources because US LEC fails to meet utilization requirements. NeuStar's refusal is based on the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") "rate center" basis for determining the need for new numbering resources. Under FCC rules, carriers must meet a rate center utilization threshold of 75 percent in order to receive additional numbering resources. However, the record reveals that US LEC is only using 58.1 percent of its numbering resources.

Consistent with its request in Docket No. 2007-14-C, Order No. 2007-67 (dated January 29, 2007), US LEC petitions the Commission to reverse NeuStar's decision,

stating the impetus for this request is the need for blocks of numbers to support the specific requirements of a large company customer. It maintains that to support its business operations this customer requires an NXX in which the third number of the NXX does not begin with 0, 1, or 9. Additionally, US LEC asserts that it does not have the NPA-NXX resources in the Spartanburg rate center, and it will therefore be unable to provide the telecommunications services requested by the customer if these additional numbering resources are not obtained. The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff states that it has no objections to the Commission granting US LEC's request and believes that the public interest will be served by granting these additional numbering resources.

To this end, the Commission has the authority under both the FCC's rules and the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines to review a decision by NeuStar denying a request for numbering resources. Further, under previous procedures used by the North American Numbering Plan Administration ("NANPA"), waivers or exceptions were typically granted in any case where customer hardships could be demonstrated or where the service provider's inventory did not have a block of numbers large enough to meet the customer's specific request. Under NeuStar's existing procedures, however, if a carrier fails to meet the utilization threshold for the entire rate center, it will deny granting additional numbering resources and allows no exceptions.

Under the stated authority, we find that US LEC has demonstrated receipt of a customer request for numbering resources in the Spartanburg rate center that it cannot meet with its current inventory. Furthermore, these additional numbering resources are necessary for US LEC to provide this customer with its required telecommunications

service. Consequently, we hold that NeuStar is hereby directed to approve US LEC's

code assignment that it recently requested for the assignment of one 1000 block of

numbers in which the third number of the NXX does not begin with 0, 1, or 9 in the

Spartanburg Rate Center, and that its customer identity information be given confidential

treatment.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the

Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:

C. Robert Moseley, Vice Chairman

C. Robert Moeley

(SEAL)